

# EXHIBIT B

UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA (SAN FRANCISCO DIVISION)

In re:  
PG&E CORPORATION,  
- and -  
PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC  
COMPANY,  
Debtors.

Bankruptcy Case  
No. 19-30088 (DM)

Chapter 11  
(Lead Case)  
(Jointly Administered)

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## Proof of Claim (Fire Claim Related)

Read the instructions before filing this claim form. This form is for tort claimants who have a claim against the Debtors (i.e. PG&E Corporation and Pacific Gas and Electric Company) that arose prior to the Debtors filing for bankruptcy (i.e. prior to January 29, 2019) and that arose from, or relates to, a fire.

Do not use this form for non-fire claims. Non-fire tort claimants should use Form 410.

Do NOT file a fraudulent claim. A person who files a fraudulent claim could be fined up to \$500,000, imprisoned for up to 5 years, or both. 18 U.S.C. §§ 152, 157, and 3571.

Please type or print in the spaces below. Do NOT use red ink or pencil.

### Part 1: Identify the Claim

1. Who is the current creditor?	GER Hospitality, LLC, dba Aventine Glen Ellen, for itself and on behalf of all others similarly situated Name of the current creditor (the person or entity to be paid for this claim)	
2. Has this claim been acquired from someone else?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes. From whom? _____	
3. Are you filing this claim on behalf of your family? A family is a group of two or more people related by birth, marriage, domestic partnership, or adoption and residing together. All such people are considered as members of one family.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes If you checked "Yes", please provide the full name of each family member that you are filing on behalf of: _____ _____ _____	
4. Where should notices and payments to the creditor be sent? Federal Rule of Bankruptcy Procedure (FRBP) 2002(g)	Where should notices to the creditor be sent? Name <u>Law Offices of Francis O. Scarpulla</u> Attorney Name (if applicable) <u>Francis O. Scarpulla</u> Attorney Bar Number (if applicable) <u>CA SB 41059</u> Street Address <u>456 Montgomery Street, 17th Floor</u> City <u>San Francisco</u> State <u>CA</u> Zip Code <u>94104</u> Phone Number <u>415-788-7210</u> Email Address <u>fos@scarpullalaw.com</u>	Where should payments to the creditor be sent? (if different) Name _____ Attorney Name (if applicable) _____ Attorney Bar Number (if applicable) _____ Street Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone Number _____ Email Address _____
5. Does this claim amend one already filed?	<input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes. Claim number on court claims registry (if known) <u>Att. A</u> Filed on <u>01/29/2019</u> MM / DD / YYYY	
6. Do you know if anyone else has filed a proof of claim for this claim?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Yes. Who made the earlier filing? _____	

Proof of Claim (Fire Related)



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Claim Number: 59725 of 49

193008880009701

**Part 2:****Give Information About the Claim as of the Date this Claim Form is Filed****7. What fire is the basis of your claim?**

Check all that apply.

☐ Camp Fire (2018)☒ North Bay Fires (2017)☐ Ghost Ship Fire (2016)☐ Butte Fire (2015)☐ Other (please provide date and brief description of fire: \_\_\_\_\_)**8. What are the loss location(s) where you and/or your family suffered harm? (e.g. home or business address, place of injury, place from which you were evacuated, if different.)**

Location(s):

14301 Arnold Drive, #32, Glen Ellen, CA 95442

**9. How were you and/or your family harmed?**

Check all that apply

☒ Property Damage (homes, structures, personal property, land, trees, landscaping, and all other property damage)☐ Owner ☒ Renter ☐ Occupant ☐ Other (Please specify): \_\_\_\_\_☐ Personal Injury☐ Wrongful Death (if checked, please provide the name of the deceased) \_\_\_\_\_☒ Business Loss/Interruption☒ Lost wages and earning capacity☒ Loss of community and essential services☐ Agricultural loss☒ Other (Please specify): Loss of going-concern value of business; loss of income; loss of inventory, etc.**10. What damages are you and/or your family claiming/seeking?**

Check all that apply

☒ Economic damages (including replacement cost of damaged property, diminution in value, loss of use, lost inventory, lost profits, and other economic damage)☒ Non-economic damages (including loss of society and support, loss of consortium, pain and suffering, emotional distress, annoyance and discomfort, and other non-economic damage)☒ Punitive, exemplary, and statutory damages☒ Attorney's fees and litigation costs☒ Interest☒ Any and all other damages recoverable under California law☒ Other (Please specify): See Att. B**11. How much is the claim?**☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ (optional)☒ Unknown / To be determined at a later date

**Part 3: Sign Below**

The person completing this proof of claim must sign and date it.  
FRBP 9011(b).

If you file this claim electronically, FRBP 5005(a)(2) authorizes courts to establish local rules specifying what a signature is.

A person who files a fraudulent claim could be fined up to \$500,000, imprisoned for up to 5 years, or both.  
18 U.S.C. §§ 152, 157, and 3571.

Check the appropriate box:

- ☐ I am the creditor.  
☒ I am the creditor's attorney or authorized agent.

I have examined the information in this *Proof of Claim* and have a reasonable belief that the information is true and correct.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on date 10/17/2019 (mm/dd/yyyy)

/s/ Francis O. Scarpulla

Signature

Print the name of the person who is completing and signing this claim:

Name	<u>Francis O. Scarpulla</u>		
	First name	Middle name	Last name
Title	<u>Attorney</u>		
Company	<u>Law Offices of Francis O. Scarpulla</u>		
	Identify the corporate servicer as the company if the authorized agent is a servicer.		
Address	<u>456 Montgomery Street, 17th Floor</u>		
	Number	Street	
	<u>San Francisco</u>	<u>CA</u>	<u>94104</u>
	City	State	ZIP Code
Contact phone	<u>415-788-7210</u>	Email	<u>fos@scarpullalaw.com</u>



Attachment A to Second Amended Proof of Claim (Fire Claim Related)

Claimant: GER Hospitality, LLC, dba Aventine Glen Ellen, on behalf of itself and all others similarly situated

PRIOR CLAIMS

**5. Does this claim amend one already filed? Yes.**

- a) Proof of Claim, Official Form 410, filed with USBC, NDCA on 1/30/19, docket 4 in 19-30088; docket 6 in 19-30089.
- b) Amended Proof of Claim, Official Form 410, filed with USBC, NDCA on January 30, 2019; docket numbers unknown.
- c) Proof of Claim numbers assigned by Prime Clerk on 1/29/19: **15.**
- d) Proof of Claim numbers assigned by Prime Clerk on 1/30/19: **28, 29, 35, 90, 118.**

Attachment B to Proof of Claim (Fire Claim Related)

Claimant: GER Hospitality, LLC, dba Aventine Glen Ellen, on behalf of itself and all others similarly situated

**10. What damages are you and/or your family claiming/seeking?**

Claimant's lawsuit against Debtors arising from destruction of Claimant's business at 14301 Arnold Drive, #32, Glen Ellen, CA: *GER HOSPITALITY, LLC, for itself and on behalf of all others similarly situated, v. PG&E Corporation, et al.*, Sonoma County Superior Court Action No.SCV-261723, filed December 22, 2017, coordinated with *California North Bay Fire Cases*; JCCP 4955.

COPY

ENDORSED  
FILED

FEB 22 2017

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[Additional Attorneys Appear on Signature Page]

*Attorneys for Plaintiff*

**SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**COUNTY OF SONOMA**

Scv 261723

GER HOSPITALITY, LLC, for itself and on behalf of all others similarly situated, [UNLIMITED CIVIL CASE]

Plaintiff,

**COMPLAINT FOR DAMAGES**

vs.

**CLASS ACTION**

PG&E CORPORATION, a California Corporation; PACIFIC GAS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY, a California Corporation; and DOES 1-125, inclusive,

Defendants.

1. NEGLIGENCE;
2. INVERSE CONDEMNATION;
3. PUBLIC NUISANCE;
4. PRIVATE NUISANCE;
5. PREMISES LIABILITY;
6. NEGLIGENCE *PER SE*;
7. VIOLATION OF PUBLIC UTILITIES CODE, SECTION 2106; and
8. VIOLATION OF HEALTH & SAFETY CODE, SECTION 13007;
9. NEGLIGENT INTERFERENCE WITH PROSPECTIVE ECONOMIC ADVANTAGE

1 Plaintiff, GER HOSPITALITY, LLC, for itself and on behalf of a class of business entities in  
2 Sonoma, Napa, Mendocino, Lake, and Solano Counties who suffered economic losses due to the  
3 wildfires that began on or about October 8, 2017, complains and alleges as follows:

4 **I**  
5 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

6 1. This Court has jurisdiction over the claims alleged in this complaint pursuant to  
7 Sections 395.5 and 410.10, California Code of Civil Procedure, in that the defendants named herein  
8 are found and are doing business in Sonoma County and many of the unlawful acts that started the  
9 wildfires on October 8, 2017, which proximately caused plaintiff and the class members to suffer  
10 economic injuries, occurred in Sonoma County.

11 2. Venue is proper in Sonoma County pursuant to Section 395.5, California Code of  
12 Civil Procedure, because the unlawful acts of the defendants named herein which proximately  
13 caused injury and damages to plaintiff and to the members of the class occurred in Sonoma County.

14 **II**  
15 **THE PARTIES**

16 **A. The Plaintiff**

17 3. The Plaintiff GER Hospitality, LLC, *dba* Aventine Glen Ellen (hereinafter "GER" or  
18 "Plaintiff"), a California limited liability corporation with its principal place of business in San  
19 Francisco, California, owns and operates a restaurant in Glen Ellen, California, which has suffered  
20 economic losses due to the wildfires which started on October 8, 2017.

21 **B. The Defendants**

22 4. Pacific Gas and Electric Company (hereinafter "PG&E Co."), a California  
23 Corporation, with its principal place of business in San Francisco, California, is hereby named a  
24 defendant herein. PG&E Co., which is authorized to transact business in California, owns, operates,  
25 controls and/or manages an electric plant for compensation within the State of California, including  
26 in Sonoma County. The electricity PG&E Co. generates is not solely for its own use and is  
27  
28



1 distributed for sale and transmission to others, including Plaintiff and other residents of Sonoma  
2 County. Therefore PG&E Co. is an "Electrical Corporation" as defined by Section 218(a) of the  
3 California Public Utilities Code; as such, PG&E Co. performs a service for and/or delivers a  
4 commodity to the public, including to plaintiff and other residents of Sonoma County. PG&E Co.  
5 receives payment for that service and/or delivery of that commodity. Therefore, pursuant to  
6 California Public Utilities Code, Section 216(a) and (b), PG&E Co. is a "Public Utility" subject to  
7 the jurisdiction, control and regulation of the California Public Utilities Commission ("CPUC") and  
8 the provisions of the California Public Utilities Code.

9       5. PG&E Corporation (hereinafter "PG&E Corp."), a publicly traded company  
10 organized and existing under the laws of the State of California with its principal place of business in  
11 San Francisco, California, is hereby named a defendant herein. PG&E Corp., which is authorized to  
12 transact business in California, is the parent company of PG&E Co. PG&E Corp. owns, operates,  
13 controls and/or manages real estate, fixtures and personal property in connection with and or to  
14 facilitate the production, generation, transmission, delivery and/or furnishing of electricity for light,  
15 heat or power. Further, PG&E Corp. owns, operates, controls and/or manages conduits, ducts, or  
16 other devices, materials, apparatus, or property for containing, holding, or carrying conductors used  
17 or to be used for the transmission of electricity for light, heat, or power. Therefore, PG&E Corp. is  
18 an "Electric Plant" as defined in Section 217 of the California Public Utilities Code. PG&E Corp.  
19 also is both an "Electrical Corporation" and a "Public Utility" as defined by Sections 218(a) and 216  
20 (a) and (b), respectively, of the California Public Utilities Code.

21       6. PG&E Co. and PG&E Corp. are referred to collectively as "PG&E" or "Defendant."

22       **C. The DOE Defendants.**

23       7. The true names of DOES 1-125, whether individual, corporate, associate, agency or  
24 otherwise, are unknown to Plaintiff(s), who, under California Code of Civil Procedure, Section 474,  
25 sue these Defendants under fictitious names. Each of the hereto unknown DOES is responsible in  
26 some manner for the conduct alleged herein, including, without limitation, by way of conspiracy,  
27 aiding, abetting, acting with actual or ostensible authority, furnishing the means and/or acting in  
28

1 capacities that create agency, *respondeat superior*, and/or predecessor or successor-in-interest  
2 relationships with PG&E. Some or all of the DOES may be residents or conduct business in the  
3 State of California. Plaintiff will seek to amend this Complaint to allege the true names, capacities  
4 and responsibility of these DOES once they are ascertained. Plaintiff makes all allegations contained  
5 in this Complaint against all Defendants, including DOES 1-125.

6 8. PG&E Co., PG&E Corp., and the DOES are referred to collectively as "Defendants."

7 9. The Defendants herein, and each of them, were agents and/or employees each of the  
8 other and in acting and/or failing to act as alleged herein, the Defendants, and each of them, were  
9 acting in the course and scope of said agency and/or employment relationship.

10 **D. The Class**

11 10. Plaintiff brings this action pursuant to Section 382, California Code of Civil  
12 Procedure, as a class action for itself and on behalf of the following class:

13 All business entities located in Sonoma, Napa, Mendocino, Lake, and  
14 Solano Counties who suffered economic losses due to the wild fires  
that started on or shortly after October 8, 2017 (the "Class").  
15 Excluded from this Class is any such business entity owned or  
16 controlled, in whole or in part, by PG&E, its officers, executives,  
17 directors, and employees, as well as by any Judge (and that Judge's  
family members), court personnel, law clerks, or members of their  
families.

18 11. This action is brought and may properly be maintained as a class action on behalf of  
19 the proposed Class defined above, pursuant to the applicable and appropriate provisions of  
20 California Code of Civil Procedure, Section 382.

21 12. The members of the Class are so numerous that a joinder of all members would be  
22 impracticable. Based on public information on the number of business entities damaged, destroyed,  
23 interrupted, or otherwise affected, the Class of those with fire-related damages includes hundreds of  
24 potential business-entity claimants.

25 13. The Class is ascertainable because business entities have state, county, or city permits  
26 to operate so that their identities can be ascertained easily and thus they can be notified of this action  
27 by direct-mail or by direct electronic means.



1           14. A well-defined community of interest in questions of law or fact involving and  
2 affecting all members of the Class exists, and common questions of law or fact are substantially  
3 similar and predominate over questions that may affect only individual Class members. This action  
4 is amenable to a class-wide calculation of damages, or the establishment of fair and equitable  
5 formulae for determining and allocating damages, through expert testimony applicable to anyone in  
6 the Class. The common questions of law or fact that will decide the outcome of this litigation are  
7 questions common to the Class, or to definable categories or subclasses thereof, and can be answered  
8 by the trier of fact in a consistent manner such that all those similarly situated are similarly treated in  
9 the litigation. The questions of law or fact common to the Plaintiff and Class members, include,  
10 among others, the following:

- 11           a. whether Defendants were negligent in their construction, maintenance, and  
12           operation of electrical infrastructure, high-voltage power lines, transformers,  
13           and/or other equipment;
- 14           b. whether Defendants owed any duties to Class members;
- 15           c. whether Defendants breached one or more duties to Class members;
- 16           d. whether Defendants' actions or inactions were a substantial factor in causing  
17           harm to class members;
- 18           e. whether the wildfires caused physical injury to Class members' properties;
- 19           f. whether the wildfires interfered with or continue to interfere with the Class  
20           members' business entities;
- 21           g. whether Defendants have created a public nuisance;
- 22           h. whether the nuisance Defendants created is temporary or permanent;
- 23           i. whether the Defendants have taken the property of Plaintiff and Class  
24           members;
- 25           j. whether Defendants have provided just compensation for having taken the  
26           property of Plaintiff and Class members;

- k. whether Defendants violated any California statutes, including California Civil Code, Sections 3479, 3480, Public Utilities Code, Section 2106, and California Health & Safety Code, Section 13007;
- l. the extent to which Class members have been harmed by the wildfires; and
- m. what is the proper measure of total class-wide damages for the Class members for their losses.

15. Plaintiff's claims are typical of the members of the Class. The evidence and the legal theories regarding Defendants' alleged wrongful conduct are substantially the same for Plaintiff and all of the Class members.

16. Plaintiff will fairly and adequately protect the interests of the Class members. Plaintiff has retained competent counsel experienced in class action litigation to ensure such protection. Plaintiff and its counsel intend to prosecute the action vigorously.

17. The class action is superior to all other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this case or controversy. The class action device is preferable to individual litigation because it provides the benefits of unitary and inclusive adjudication, economies of scale, and comprehensive adjudication by a single court.

18. Prosecution of separate actions by individual business entities would create a risk of inconsistent or varying adjudications with respect to individual Class members that would establish incompatible standards of conduct for the party (or parties) opposing the Class, lead to the underinclusive, inconsistent or otherwise inequitable allocation of Defendants' available assets and insurance among similarly situated claimants, and would lead to repetitious trials of numerous common questions of fact and/or law. Plaintiff knows of no difficulty that will be encountered in the management of this litigation that would preclude its maintenance as a class action. As a result, a class action is superior to other available methods for the fair and efficient adjudication of this controversy.

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**III**  
**VIOLATIONS ALLEGED**

19. Beginning on or about October 8, 2017 a series of severe wildfires (referred to collectively as the "Wine Country Fires") burned large areas in Sonoma, Napa, Mendocino, Lake, and Solano Counties (the "Wildfire Counties").

20. Plaintiff operates a restaurant in Glen Ellen, California and suffered damages because of the Wine Country Fires and seeks compensation for those damages.

21. The wildfire that damaged Plaintiff's business was a result of the negligence of PG&E in the design, engineering, construction, maintenance, use, repair and/or monitoring its electrical equipment and the areas around that equipment and the failure of such equipment.

22. As part of supplying electricity to members of the public, PG&E installed, constructed, maintained, and operated overhead power lines, together with supporting poles and appurtenances, for conducting electricity for delivery to members of the general public including residents of and businesses located in the Wildfire Counties.

23. PG&E is responsible for maintaining its electrical equipment and the areas around that equipment, including, but not limited to maintaining and/or clearing vegetation and other hazards in proximity to their electrical equipment in compliance with State and Federal Regulations, specifically including but not limited to California Public Resource Code, Section 4292, California Public Resource Code, Section 4293, CPUC General Order 95, and Public Utilities Commission, General Order 165.

24. At all times prior to October 8, 2017, PG&E had a non-transferable, non-delegable duty to apply a level of care commensurate with, and proportionate to, the danger of designing, engineering, constructing, operating, managing, maintaining, and repairing its electrical transmission and distribution systems. This duty includes the maintenance and clearance of vegetation from around such transmission and distribution systems. Additionally, PG&E has a non-delegable duty of vigilant oversight in the maintenance, use, operation, repair and inspection appropriate to the changing conditions and circumstances of its electrical transmission and distribution systems and the surrounding environment.

1           25. At all times relevant to this Complaint, PG&E has and had a non-delegable duty to  
2 properly maintain and repair their electrical transmission lines and other equipment, and to keep  
3 vegetation properly trimmed and maintained to prevent contact with power lines and other electrical  
4 equipment. This duty includes the obligation to comply with statutes, regulations, and standards,  
5 including, but not limited to, California Public Resources Code, Section 4292, California Public  
6 Resources Code, Section 4294 and CPUC General Order 95. Further, PG&E was aware that such  
7 standards and regulations constitute minimum standards and that PG&E had a duty to make its  
8 equipment safe under all foreseeable circumstances and conditions.

9           26. The operation of electrical infrastructure and the transmission of electricity through  
10 wires are dangerous and hazardous activities. Conducting such activities requires the exercise of an  
11 increased level of care commensurate with that danger and hazard so as to make the transmission of  
12 electricity safe under all prevailing circumstances, including, but not limited to surrounding  
13 vegetation, climate, weather and the risk of fire.

14           27. Defendants were aware of the danger from fires in the Wildfire Counties during  
15 periods of little or no precipitation when environmental conditions increase the danger of wildfires  
16 and the high temperatures, abundance of dry plant material, absence of moisture, and the prevalence  
17 of high wind make extinguishing a fire difficult.

18           28. In recent years, the increasing number of severe wildfires in California put PG&E on  
19 notice of the elevated level of care required to prevent their electrical equipment from causing  
20 wildfires during California's seasonal weather conditions. For many years, California suffered  
21 through a severe drought. Much of the vegetation, including trees, had died, and was very dry. The  
22 rains of the winter of 2016-2017 predictably produced an abundance of new growth of grasses and  
23 other plant material that foreseeably became highly-combustible during the Summer and into the  
24 Fall months. The low-humidity, tinder-like vegetation, and high wind are foreseeable conditions that  
25 occur often in the region of California where the Wine Country Wildfires occurred.

26           29. According to the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection ("Cal Fire"),  
27 the explosive failure of power lines and other electrical equipment has regularly ranked among the  
28



1 top three singular sources of California wildfires for the last several years. In 2015, the last year of  
2 reported data, electrical power problems caused the burning of 149,241 acres – more than twice the  
3 amount from any other cause.

4 30. As set forth in more detail below, the Wine Country Fires share a common cause:  
5 PG&E's willful and conscious disregard of public safety. PG&E's aging and improperly maintained  
6 electrical infrastructure sparked the Wine Country Fires by coming into contact with trees and  
7 vegetation that PG&E had allowed to grow too close to power lines and poles.

8 31. PG&E was aware of these dangers and risks – it knew its infrastructure was aging and  
9 inadequately maintained; it knew trees and vegetation were too close to the poles and lines; it knew  
10 the current and seasonal weather, climate and fire-risk conditions in Northern California; it knew  
11 where and how fires had ignited before in these areas; and it knew its own failures had caused fires  
12 and the attendant destruction numerous times before. PG&E knew all this, but failed to act on this  
13 knowledge.

14 32. The conditions and circumstances in existence when the Wine Country Fires began  
15 were foreseeable by a reasonably prudent person, and even more foreseeable to PG&E, which has  
16 special knowledge and expertise as a public utility company, and which has dealt with such  
17 conditions and circumstances for an extended period of time.

18 33. PG&E did not protect against the danger caused by these foreseeable risks. As a  
19 result, residents of the Wildfire Counties were stricken by devastating fires, which were entirely  
20 preventable. These fires were caused by the intentional, negligent, and/or otherwise wrongful  
21 conduct of PG&E.

22 34. PG&E failed in its duty to exercise care commensurate with, and proportionate to, the  
23 combined danger of an area susceptible to fire and the dangerous activity of wires carrying  
24 electricity and electrical infrastructure. PG&E's failure was the sole cause of the Wine Country  
25 Fires, as more fully set forth herein.

26 35. The California Public Utilities Commission (hereinafter "CPUC") regulates privately  
27 owned electric, natural gas, and telecommunications companies. The role of CPUC is to protect  
28

1 consumers and ensure the provision of safe, reliable, utility service and infrastructure. In enacting  
2 their regulations, CPUC is given the power to fine utilities they regulate for failure to comply with  
3 such regulations.

4 36. In 2013, a report that was produced at the direction of CPUC found that much of  
5 PG&E's equipment was obsolete and highly susceptible to failure and that many of PG&E's old  
6 power poles were not properly inspected and/or maintained. It was further found that a significant  
7 portion of PG&E's electrical infrastructure was not able to be remotely turned off when a power line  
8 was downed.

9 37. Over the past 10 years, PG&E has been subject to numerous fines and penalties  
10 because of their ongoing failure to abide by safety rules and regulations. A notable CPUC decision  
11 date April 9, 2015 imposed on PG&E a record fine/penalty of \$1.6 billion for safety violations that  
12 resulted in deaths, injuries, and destroyed homes related to the San Bruno natural gas pipeline  
13 explosion. One of the stated purposes of the CPUC in rendering such a record fine against PG&E  
14 was to "ensure that nothing like this happens again."

15 38. PG&E was also subjected to \$8.3 million in fines and penalties by the CPUC for its  
16 role in causing the Butte Fire. These fines were issued, in part, for PG&E's failure to maintain  
17 overhead conductors safely and properly, and PG&E's failure to maintain the minimum required  
18 clearance between its conductors and trees.

19 39. PG&E's disregard for safety has resulted in federal criminal charges. The United  
20 States Department of Justice has charged PG&E with various crimes based on PG&E's knowing and  
21 willful violation of various minimum safety standards.

22 40. Despite these penalties and fines, PG&E has failed and refused to modify its behavior  
23 and continues to conduct its business with a conscious disregard for the safety of the public.

24 41. As a result of the continued actions by PG&E, in conscious disregard for the safety of  
25 others, the CPUC has ordered an investigation into the culture of ignoring safety at PG&E. The  
26 CPUC President has recognized that PG&E has failed and refused to modify its conduct. Despite  
27 penalties and fines, in July of 2015, the President of the CPUC, specifically stated:



1 Despite major public attention, ongoing CPUC investigations (OIRs)  
2 and rulemakings (OIRs) into PG&E's actions and operations, including  
3 the investigations we voted on today, federal grand jury, and  
4 California Department of Justice investigation, continued safety lapses  
5 at PG&E continue to occur.

6 42. In addition, the most recent 2015 audit of PG&E, found 3,527 maintenance and repair  
7 jobs that were not finished by their scheduled due dates. A 2013 audit of PG&E's North Bay  
8 division, which includes Marin and Napa counties, showed 9,520 repair or maintenance orders  
9 finished late and 3,270 still overdue at the time of the audit.

10 43. In the construction, inspection, repair, maintenance, management, ownership, and/or  
11 operation of its power lines and other electrical equipment, PG&E had an obligation to comply with  
12 a number of statutes, regulations, and standards, as detailed below.

13 44. Pursuant to Public Utilities Code, Section 451, "[e]very public utility shall furnish  
14 and maintain such adequate, efficient, just, and reasonable service, instrumentalities, equipment, and  
15 facilities ... as are necessary to promote the safety, health, comfort, and convenience of its patrons,  
16 employees, and the public."

17 45. To meet this safety mandate, PG&E is required to comply with a number of design  
18 standards for its electrical equipment, as stated in CPUC General Order 95. In extreme fire areas,  
19 PG&E also must ensure that its power lines can withstand winds of up to 92 miles per hour. Further,  
20 PG&E also must follow several standards to protect the public from the consequences of vegetation  
21 and/or trees coming into contact with its power lines and other electrical equipment. Pursuant to  
22 Public Resources Code, Section 4292, PG&E is required to "maintain around and adjacent to any  
23 pole or tower which supports a switch, fuse, transformer, lightning arrester, line junction, or dead  
24 end or corner pole, a firebreak which consists of a clearing of not less than 10 feet in each direction  
25 from the outer circumference of such pole or tower." Also, Public Resources Code, Section 4293  
26 mandates PG&E maintain clearances of four to ten feet for all of its power lines, depending of [on]  
27 their voltage. In addition, "[d]ead trees, old decadent or rotten trees, trees weakened by decay or  
28 disease and trees or portions thereof that are leaning toward the line which may contact the line from  
the side or may fall on the line shall be felled, cut, or trimmed so as to remove such hazard."

1           46. Pursuant to CPUC General Order 165, PG&E is also required to inspect its  
2 distribution facilities to maintain a safe and reliable electric system. In particular, PG&E must  
3 conduct "detailed" inspections of all of its overhead transformers in urban areas at least every five  
4 years. Also, every ten years, PG&E is required to conduct "intrusive" inspections of its wooden  
5 poles that have not already been inspected and are over 15 years old.

6           47. PG&E knew or should have known that such standards and regulations were  
7 minimum standards and that PG&E has a duty to identify vegetation which posed a foreseeable  
8 hazard to power lines and/or other electrical equipment, and to manage the growth of vegetation near  
9 its power lines and equipment so as to prevent the foreseeable danger of contact between vegetation  
10 and power lines starting a fire. Further, PG&E has a duty to manage, maintain, repair, and/or replace  
11 its aging infrastructure to protect public safety. These objectives could and should have been  
12 accomplished in a number of ways, including, but not limited to, putting electrical equipment  
13 underground in wildfire-prone areas, increasing inspections, developing and implementing protocols  
14 to shut down electrical operations in emergency situations, modernizing infrastructure, and/or  
15 obtaining an independent audit of its risk-management programs to ensure effectiveness.

16           48. Defendants were specifically aware that they had a duty to maintain equipment and  
17 the surrounding vegetation in compliance with these regulations and that a failure to do so  
18 constituted negligence and would expose Plaintiff and Class members to a serious risk of property  
19 damage and economic losses caused by wildfires.

20           49. At all times mentioned herein, PG&E was aware that the State of California had been  
21 in a period of drought, and that even though it received more rain this past winter, the extremely hot  
22 Summer months brought back drought-like conditions. The heavy rain this Winter followed by a hot  
23 Summer made California especially prone to wildfires: the rains caused a lot of plants and  
24 vegetation to grow, and the heat then caused them to dry out. PG&E was aware that the drought  
25 conditions existed and were aware that fire danger was at an extraordinarily high level, particularly  
26 given the increased amount of dry vegetation.



1           50. PG&E also know that Northern California often experiences the “Diablo Winds,” the  
2 hot, dry winds, which can make dangerous weather conditions highly conducive to the spread of  
3 wildfire. The Diablo Winds are not abnormal or unforeseeable, and all who live and work in  
4 California have to act reasonably under these conditions to prevent fires from starting or spreading.

5           51. PG&E knew that if their power lines or other equipment came into contact with, or  
6 caused electricity to come into contact with, vegetation it was probable that a fire would result and  
7 that, given the dry conditions, such a fire would likely result in the loss of life, significant damage to  
8 real and personal property, and economic losses to members of the general public, including to this  
9 Plaintiff and Class members.

10          52. In June 2014, the CPUC directed PG&E to take remedial measures to reduce the risk  
11 of fires by way of Resolution ESRB-4, after Governor Brown had declared a Drought State of  
12 Emergency in January. In November 2015, the Governor issued another drought-related Executive  
13 Order to call for additional actions to respond to the record dry conditions and assist recovery efforts  
14 for the victims of 2015’s devastating wildfires. Although the Governor issued an Executive Order in  
15 April 2017 ending the drought State of Emergency in all counties except Fresno, Kings, Tulare, and  
16 Tuolumne, the declaration directed state agencies “to continue response activities that may be  
17 needed to manage the lingering drought impacts to people and wildlife.”

18          53. In October 2015, Governor Brown issued The California Tree Mortality State of  
19 Emergency regarding the unprecedented tree die-off in the state. The drought conditions  
20 exacerbated a bark beetle infestation that ultimately killed tens of millions of trees. The tree die-off  
21 significantly worsened the “risk in many areas of the state and presents life safety risks from falling  
22 trees to Californians living in rural, forested communities.” Governor Brown sought additional  
23 resources to provide for the safe removal of dead and dying trees.

24          54. In addition, the CPUC informed PG&E in Resolution ESRB-4 that it could seek  
25 recovery of incremental costs associated with these remedial measures outside of the standard  
26 funding process, *i.e.*, the CPUC was agreeing to provide additional funding on top of vegetation  
27  
28

1 management funding already authorized in order to make sure remedial measures would not go  
2 unperformed due to lack of funding.

3 55. According to PG&E's 2014 Annual Electric Distribution Reliability Report, sent to  
4 the CPUC on February 27, 2015, weather conditions have accounted for many of the top ten PG&E  
5 electrical outages each year since at least 2004 – proof that Defendants knew that these weather  
6 conditions occur and that they can cause electrical problems. For example, four of the “ten largest  
7 2004 outage events” for PG&E occurred in the Santa Rosa and Sonoma areas, and winds were  
8 documented at much higher levels than those of October 8, 2017. The CPUC has not rescinded  
9 ESRB-4 and the Tree Mortality State of Emergency remains in effect.

10 56. Further, according to records maintained by Cal Fire, approximately 135 fires in  
11 Sonoma and Napa Counties were caused by electrical equipment from 2011 through 2015. In 2015,  
12 the last year of reported data, electrical power problems sparked the burning of 149,241 acres across  
13 California – more than twice the amount from any other cause.

14 57. PG&E has long known that the biggest threat of a tree-caused electrical wildfire was  
15 in the North Bay. A document entitled “Summary and Analysis of Vegetation-Related Fire  
16 Incidents on PG&E electric Powerlines,” an internal PG&E document prepared by Charles Filmer in  
17 February 2013 and reviewed by NBC Bay Area, shows that the North Bay counties to have nearly a  
18 three percent (3%) risk of a power line sparking a wildfire. The risk was listed as one percent (1%)  
19 elsewhere in PG&E's territory. Nevertheless, PG&E failed to take reasonable, preventative  
20 measures.

21 58. In May 2016, the CPUC adopted a so-called “Fire Map,” which depicts areas of  
22 California where there is an elevated hazard for the ignition and rapid spread of power line fires due  
23 to strong winds, abundant dry vegetation, and other environmental conditions. The CPUC adopted  
24 the Fire Map in response to past devastating wildfires that were reportedly ignited by power lines.

25 59. On the Fire Map, the area in and around the origin of the Wine Country Fires  
26 indicates the highest level of elevated hazard for the ignition and rapid spread of power line fires due  
27 to strong winds, abundant dry vegetation, and/or other environmental conditions.



1           60.     PG&E was put on direct notice of this map in May 2016, and therefore knew well in  
2 advance of the Wine Country Fires of the elevated fire risk for the region.

3           61.     After the fires, PGE initially attempted to shift blame away from itself by announcing  
4 that unusually powerful, "hurricane strength winds" were to blame for the severity of the fires. But  
5 local weather station readings found the winds were almost half that speed when Defendants' power  
6 lines started to come down.

7           62.     Contrary to Defendant's suggestion, Northern California did not experience highly  
8 unusual weather patterns the night the Wine Country Fires began. A review of readings at weather  
9 stations in the areas impacted by the Fires shows that winds were not at unexpected levels when  
10 PG&E's electrical equipment began to fail. For example, a weather station in Santa Rose in the  
11 vicinity of the Tubbs Fire recorded wind gusts of about 30 miles per hour at or around 9:30 p.m. on  
12 October 8, 2017. About an hour later, the same station recorded wind gusts of 41 miles per hour.  
13 These wind speeds were surpassed in other recent storms in the area on a number of occasions.

14           63.     On May 6, 2013, a report (the "2013 Liberty report") was sent to the Safety and  
15 Enforcement Division of the CPUC from the Liberty Consulting Group, which had been retained to  
16 conduct an independent review of capital and operations and maintenance expenditures proposed by  
17 PG&E. The 2013 Liberty Report concluded that: "several aspects of the PG&E [electrical]  
18 distribution system present significant safety issues."

19           64.     The report further stated, "addressing aging infrastructure and adding SCADA to the  
20 system comprise the major focuses of safety initiatives for the distribution system." The Report  
21 authors were so concerned about the state of PG&E's aging infrastructure that they advised in the  
22 Report: "[w]e also recommend that PG&E treat aging infrastructure as an enterprise-level risk."

23           65.     The Liberty Report concluded that "aging infrastructure is best addressed by having a  
24 strategic asset management program in place. These types of programs ... force a detailed and  
25 thorough condition assessment survey of the major assets. These types of formal programs also take  
26 failure modes into consideration. Long term sustainable plans can then be prepared to address the  
27  
28

1 asset conditions. A sustainable asset management plan will mitigate system safety risks from aging  
2 infrastructure, which constituted a major portion of the safety items” for PG&E.

3 66. PG&E has known for years that its miles of aging power lines pose a serious safety  
4 risk of triggering wildfires.

5 67. The 2013 Liberty Report found that PG&E’s system had a large amount of obsolete,  
6 unsafe, small-size wiring (*a.k.a.*, “conductors”) still in use, which should have been replaced with  
7 safer larger-size wires long ago. At the time, PG&E had 113,000 miles of wiring, and according to  
8 the report, over 60 percent (60%) is of the small-size type that is highly susceptible to failure. The  
9 small-size conductors are generally more susceptible to breaking than standard-size conductors. As  
10 the conductor ages, it becomes even more susceptible to breaking. Weather conditions, such as  
11 winds and lightning strikes, will also wear a small conductor more than larger ones. For these  
12 reasons, “[t]his conductor [type] is now recognized as obsolete, due to its small size.”

13 68. The 2013 Liberty Report found that about one-fifth of PG&E’s system was frail and  
14 obsolete. Most concerning to the consultants was that three-quarters of the system was made of  
15 three-wire lines. Three-wire lines lack modern in-line grounding technology that has been available  
16 for at least the last four decades. Without a ground wire, PG&E could not always isolate a problem  
17 remotely nor shut down a faulty wire quickly. Instead, the live wires remain on the ground when  
18 they fall, posing a danger of injuries and fire.

19 69. PG&E knew the majority of its system was obsolete and had unsafe wiring, yet  
20 PG&E did nothing to update it.

21 70. According to the 2017 CPUC Order Instituting Investigation into the Creation of a  
22 Shared Database or Statewide Census of Utility Poles and Conduit:

23 Poorly maintained poles and attachments have caused substantial  
24 property damage and repeated loss of life in this State. Unauthorized  
25 pole attachments are particularly problematic. A pole overloaded with  
26 unauthorized equipment collapsed during winding conditions and  
27 started the Malibu Canyon Fire of 2007, destroying and damaging  
28 luxury homes and burning over 4500 acres. Windstorms in 2011  
knocked down a large number of poles in Southern California, many  
of which were later found to be weakened by termites, dry rot, and  
fungal decay.



1           71. In the June 29, 2017 CPUC press release for the Order, the CPUC President Michael  
2 Picker stated, “[p]lain old wooden poles, along with their cousins, the underground conduits, are  
3 work horses, carrying most of our power and telecommunications. They sometimes get crowded and  
4 fail, causing outages and fires because of all the equipment crammed onto them.” Further, “[n]ot  
5 knowing where all the poles are and who owns them, how loaded they are, how safe they are, and  
6 whether they can handle any additional infrastructure, is problematic to both the utilities and to the  
7 CPUC. Creating a database of utility poles could help owners track attachments on their poles and  
8 manage necessary maintenance and rearrangements, and can help the CPUC in our oversight role.

9           72. In addition, since prior to 1996, PG&E has known or should have known that its  
10 choice of chemical treatments for its poles can also make its equipment unsafe. For example, PG&E  
11 uses and has used poles treated with pentachlorophenol in liquified petroleum gas by the Cellon®  
12 process. Those poles tend to experience surface decay below ground regardless of the type of wood  
13 used for the poles. As a result, digging inspections are required for poles treated by these processes  
14 for all wood types. However, Plaintiffs believes that PG&E has failed to conduct the proper  
15 inspections, and when PG&E has been advised of necessary repairs to such poles, PG&E failed to  
16 repair the poles in a timely manner.

17           73. The 2013 Liberty Report found that on a daily basis, and in 36 percent (36%) of  
18 cases, PG&E cannot remotely de-energize a downed line and must send someone to the scene to  
19 manually turn-off the feed. During that time, the downed line is a live wire and a fire hazard.

20           74. PG&E has a long-standing practice of using devices called “reclosers” throughout its  
21 system to automatically restart power after interruptions, even though it is well known to the  
22 industry – including PG&E – that recloser devices can cause wildfires.

23           75. Reclosers send pulses of electricity through power lines whenever an interruption  
24 occurs on lines equipped with the devises. According to experts, if power lines are in contact with  
25 trees or vegetation, these pulses of electricity can start fires.

26           76. PG&E knew that its reclosers posed a great risk of wildfire. At a Congressional  
27 hearing in 2015, PG&E’s Senior Vice President of Electrical Operations, Patrick Hogan, stated that  
28



1 PG&E had the ability to reprogram its reclosers during fire season to not restart power. Patrick  
2 Hogan claimed that shutting down power means "you take the reliability hit, but you gain the  
3 wildfire benefit."

4 77. The dangers posed by reclosers are so significant that the other two major utilities in  
5 California, San Diego Gas & Electric Company and Southern California Edison, have reprogrammed  
6 their electrical systems during fire seasons to ensure that reclosers do not automatically restart  
7 electrical currents after a service interruption. In contrast, PG&E did not reprogram its reclosers.

8 78. Since PG&E did not reprogram all of its reclosers to keep electricity turned off after a  
9 disruption during fire season, the night the Wine Country Fires began, some of PG&E's devices  
10 were programmed to trying up to three times to restore power by sparking electricity.

11 79. NBC Bay Area has recently reported that PG&E's own auditors allow one out of 100  
12 trees they check to violate state power line clearance standards. With about 55 million trees under  
13 its control, this means approximately 500,000 trees may not be in compliance with state law. Even  
14 more troubling, when PG&E found more than one tree in every 100 violated safety laws, the  
15 company merely expanded the number of trees it checked until it could meet its compliance rate.

16 80. On top of having aging infrastructure and no formal, organized system to track the  
17 condition of the infrastructure, PG&E failed to perform the necessary maintenance and inspections  
18 of its electrical equipment. A 2015 audit of PG&E's Sonoma Division revealed that there were over  
19 3,500 unfilled PG&E repair and maintenance requests in the area of the Tubbs fire. This number is  
20 staggering in terms of the safety risk posed to the people and businesses in the Fire Area.

21 81. In a December 31, 2015 letter to PG&E regarding the audit, Fayi Daye, a supervising  
22 electric safety regulator with the CPUC, outlined the violations found in the review of records  
23 between 2010 and 2015 and a spot check of PG&E electrical distribution equipment. Fayi Daye's  
24 letter stated the following:

25 PG&E's records indicated that from August 2010 to September 21,  
26 2015, a total of 3,527 work orders were completed past their scheduled  
27 date of corrective action per PG&E's electric Notification  
28 Prioritization Standards. Late work orders included overhead and  
underground facilities.

1 The letter concluded that these delays violated CPUC General Order No. 128, Rule 17.1,  
2 which sets forth the CPUC's design, construction, and maintenance rules for electrical systems.

3 82. The audit also reviewed PG&E's maps for its electrical distribution lines and found  
4 that over 50 pieces of overhead equipment – including pole-mounted transformers and power lines –  
5 had not been inspected every year as required by law. This was a violation of CPUC General Order  
6 No. 165, Section III-B, which sets forth standards for inspections.

7 83. Although PG&E received the money for such inspections, PG&E failed to correct any  
8 problems with its lines.

9 84. PG&E's failure to use due care in maintaining its power lines and its disregard for the  
10 requirements of vegetation management caused this foreseeable, preventable tragedy that has  
11 harmed thousands of people and businesses.

12 85. PG&E knew of the risks its system created before the Wine Country Fires because  
13 PG&E has been called out and punished for this behavior before.

14 86. PG&E has a long history of disregarding safety regulations in order to maximize  
15 corporate profits. In 1994, PG&E was found guilty of 739 counts of negligence and fined nearly \$30  
16 Million by the CPUC when its high-voltage wires caused a fire in Nevada County after coming into  
17 contact with nearby trees. Prosecutors uncovered that PG&E had diverted almost \$80 Million from  
18 its tree-cutting programs into profits.

19 87. An audit by the CPUC showed that PG&E violated electricity-grid safety regulations  
20 at least 11 times in the North Bay in the years prior to the Wine Country Fires. CPUC also said that  
21 PG&E had failed in thousands of instances over a five-year period to conduct timely inspections and  
22 to complete work orders required by the state regulator. During the same time period, PG&E took in  
23 about \$1 Billion in profits each year.

24 88. PG&E also regularly fails to comply with safety rules set by regulators. Regulators  
25 who audit PG&E's work in the field cite the company for late repairs and maintenance jobs far more  
26 frequently than any other electric utility in the state.



1           89.     Moreover, PG&E has actively fought against initiatives intended to prevent wildfires.  
2 After electrical lines knocked down by wind sparked the catastrophic fire in San Diego in 2007, the  
3 CPUC has attempted to adopt stricter regulations and create a map of the power lines that pose the  
4 biggest fire risk. Proponents assert that the initiative could have bolstered maintenance efforts and  
5 forced PG&E to strengthen poles prior to the Fires. But PG&E opposed these efforts, claiming such  
6 mapping would be too expensive for rural areas. This safety initiative was delayed five times,  
7 including an additional delay granted on October 6, just two days before the Wine Country Fires  
8 began.

9           90.     PG&E has also blocked implementation of the safety proposals related to wildfires.  
10 In July 2017, PG&E asked again to slow down the effort and for more time to comply with new  
11 wildfire regulations. PG&E also argued against increasing the ability of the poles to sustain greater  
12 winds, claiming there was no evidence that wildfires had been caused by poles not being able to  
13 withstand high winds.

14           91.     PG&E has a well-documented history of implementing a “run to failure” approach  
15 with its aging infrastructure, whereby it ignores necessary maintenance in order to line its own  
16 pockets with excessive profits. According to a filing by the CPUC in March 2013:

17                   [T]he Overland Audit explains how PG&E systematically underfunded  
18                   [Gas Transmission & Storage (“GT&S”)] integrity management and  
19                   maintenance operations for the years 2008 through 2010. PG&E  
20                   engaged in a “run to failure” strategy whereby it deferred needed  
21                   maintenance projects and changed the assessment method for several  
22                   pipelines from [In-line Inspection (“ILI”)] to the less informative  
23                   [External Corrosion Direct Assessment (“ECDA”)] approach – all to  
24                   increase its profits even further beyond its already generous authorized  
25                   rate of return, which averaged 11.2% between 1996 and 2010.

26                   Given PG&E’s excessive profits over the period of the Overland  
27                   Audit, there is no reason to believe that Overland’s example regarding  
28                   GT&S operations between 2008 and 2010 was unique. The  
29                   [Integrated Resource Planning] Report supplements the Overland  
30                   Audit findings with additional examples of PG&E management’s  
31                   commitment to profits over safety. Thus, it is evident that while the  
32                   example of GT&S underfunding between 2008 and 2010 might be  
33                   extreme, it was not an isolated incident; rather, it represents the  
34                   culmination of PG&E management’s long-standing policy to squeeze  
35                   every nickel it could from PG&E gas operations and maintenance,  
36                   regardless of the long term “run to failure” impacts. And PG&E has  
37                   offered no evidence to the contrary.



1           92. This same filing also cited to reports which revealed that “the multiple and recurring  
2 deficiencies in PG&E operation practices indicate a systemic problem .... [These problems] involve  
3 people at numerous levels within a company, and are characterized by a pervasive lack of proactive  
4 measures to ensure adoption and compliance with a safety culture.” Additionally, the filing found  
5 that “[PG&E] did not include any goals for safety as part of its long-term aspirations. It did include  
6 an aspiration for financial performance, however.”

7           93. PG&E knew about the significant risk of wildfires from its ineffective vegetation  
8 management programs, unsafe equipment, and/or aging infrastructure for decades before the Wine  
9 Country Fires began, and has been repeatedly fined and/or convicted of crimes for failing to mitigate  
10 these risks.

- 11           a. In 1994, PG&E’s failure to trim trees near its power lines caused the  
12 devastating “Trauner Fire” in Nevada County, California. In 1997, a jury  
13 found PG&E liable for 739 counts of criminal negligence for causing this fire.  
14 Subsequent to the trial, a report authored by the CPUC revealed that from  
15 1987 through 1994, PG&E diverted \$495 Million from its budgets for  
16 maintaining its systems, and instead, used this money to boost corporate  
17 profits.
- 18           b. In 2003, PG&E’s apparent inability to learn from its past mistakes caused a fire  
19 at its Mission District Substation in San Francisco. In 2004, the CPUC  
20 investigated the fire and concluded that “it finds it quite troubling that PG&E  
21 did not implement its own recommendations” after a previous fire at the same  
22 substation.
- 23           c. In 2008, PG&E’s inadequate repair job and infrastructure caused a deadly  
24 explosion in Rancho Cordova, California. In 2010, the CPUC fined PG&E  
25 \$38 Million for causing and failing to prevent the explosion.
- 26           d. In 2010, PG&E’s aging infrastructure caused the deadly gas explosion in San  
27 Bruno, California that killed eight people and destroyed dozens of homes. As  
28

1 a result, the CPUC slapped PG&E with a \$1.6 Billion fine, and PG&E was  
2 later found guilty of six felony charges.

3 e. In 2011, PG&E caused an explosion in Cupertino when it failed to replace a  
4 plastic pipe that it knew was unsafe since at least 2002. PG&E ignored  
5 warnings about the dangerous nature of the pipe, and instead chose to do  
6 nothing.

7 f. In 2014, PG&E's inadequate recordkeeping and disregard for public safety  
8 caused an explosion in Carmel. As a result, PG&E was required to pay over  
9 \$36 Million in fines.

10 g. Since 2014, PG&E has been fined \$9.65 Million by the CPUC for incidents  
11 solely related to their electrical distribution systems.

12 h. Since 2015, PG&E was once again responsible for causing a massive wildfire  
13 called the "Butte Fire," which destroyed hundreds of homes and killed two  
14 people, due to its inadequate and unlawful vegetation management practices  
15 and disregard for public safety. After the fire, in 2017, the CPUC fined  
16 PG&E a total of \$8.3 Million for violating multiple safety laws.

17 i. The most recent fine/penalty imposed on PG&E for safety violations occurred  
18 on April 9, 2015, when the CPU imposed a record \$1.6 billion for safety  
19 violations that resulted in deaths, injuries, and destroyed homes related to the  
20 San Bruno fire. One of the stated purposes of the CPUC in rendering such a  
21 record fine against PG&E was to "ensure that nothing like this happens  
22 again."

23 94. In addition, PG&E's disregard for safety has resulted in federal criminal charges for  
24 its knowing and willful violation of various minimum safety standards. Despite these penalties and  
25 fines, the PG&E Defendants have failed and refused to modify their behavior and they have  
26 continued to conduct their business with a conscious disregard for the safety of the public.



1           95. As a result of the continued actions by these Defendants, in conscious disregard for  
2 the safety of others, the CPUC has ordered an investigation into the culture of ignoring safety at  
3 PG&E. The CPUC President has recognized that Defendants have failed and refused to modify their  
4 conduct. Despite penalties and fines, in July of 2015, the President of the CPUC, specifically stated:

5                       Despite major public attention, ongoing CPUC investigations ... and  
6                       rule makings ... into PG&E's actions and operations, including the  
7                       investigations we voted on today, federal grand jury, and California  
8                       Department of Justice investigation, continued safety lapses at PG&E  
9                       continue to occur.

10           96. All of these devastating events, and many more, resulted from PG&E's long history  
11 of choosing to divert funds from its public safety, vegetation management, and/or infrastructure  
12 maintenance programs to instead line its own corporate pockets.

13           97. Rather than allocate adequate funds from the money it obtains from customers for  
14 infrastructure maintenance and safety, PG&E funnels funds to boost its own corporate profits and  
15 compensation. This pattern and practice of favoring profits over having a solid and well-maintained  
16 infrastructure that would be safe and dependable for years to come exposed the citizens of Northern  
17 California, such as Plaintiff and Class members, to an increased risk of a catastrophic event such as  
18 the Wine Country Fires.

19           98. For example, according to documents released by The Utility Reform Network,  
20 PG&E supposedly planned to replace a segment of the San Bruno pipeline in 2007 that it identified  
21 as one of the riskiest pipelines in PG&E's system. PG&E collected \$5 Million from its customers to  
22 complete the project by 2009, but instead deferred the project until it was too late and repurposed the  
23 money to other priorities. That same year, PG&E spent nearly \$5 Million on bonuses for six of its  
24 top executives.

25           99. Moreover, PG&E has implemented multiple programs that provide monetary  
26 incentives to its employees, agents, and/or contractors to not protect public safety. Prior to the Butte  
27 Fire, PG&E chose to provide a monetary incentive to its contractors to cut fewer trees, even though  
28 PG&E was required to have an inspection program in place that removed dangerous trees and  
reduced the risk of wildfires. Robert Urban, a regional officer for a PG&E contractor, stated that he



1 had a concern that the bonus system incentivized his employees to not do their job, but PG&E chose  
2 to keep this program despite knowing this risk.

3 100. Similarly, prior to the San Bruno explosion, PG&E had a program that provided  
4 financial incentives to employees to not report or fix gas leaks and keep repair costs down. This  
5 program resulted in the failure to detect a significant number of gas leaks, many of which were  
6 considered serious leaks. According to Richard Kuprewicz, an independent pipeline safety expert,  
7 PG&E's incentive system was "training and rewarding people to do the wrong thing," emblematic of  
8 "a seriously broken process," and "explains many of the systemic problems in this operation that  
9 contributed to the [San Bruno] tragedy."

10 **IV**  
11 **INJURY TO PLAINTIFF AND THE CLASS**

12 101. Plaintiff is informed and believes and herein alleges that PG&E knew or should have  
13 known of its failure to maintain its equipment to appropriate standards that resulted in the Wine  
14 Country Fires. Plaintiff is further informed and believes and herein alleges that PG&E knew or  
15 should have known of the dangerous conditions that eventually resulted in the Wine Country Fires,  
16 but recklessly and with careless and conscious disregard for human life and safety, decided to ignore  
17 the fire risk.

18 102. All of the Wine Country Fires shared a common cause – faulty electrical  
19 infrastructure owned, operated, and improperly maintained by PG&E.

20 103. Not only did PG&E's wires and transformer problems start the Wine Country Fires,  
21 but also the downed trees blocked firefighters and emergency responders from reaching the scene.  
22 Highway 128, in the center of the battle to contain the flames, was completely blocked by trees and  
23 branches, and Highway 101, which provided access through the heart of Santa Rosa, was shut down  
24 because of PG&E's downed wires.

25 104. The full extent of the damage has not yet been quantified, but as of this filing, the  
26 Wine Country Fires have devastated nearly 250,000 acres in Northern California, destroying homes,  
27 businesses, vineyards, farms, and lives.  
28

1        105. Over 14,700 structures were damaged or destroyed. These included homes, farm  
2 buildings, and commercial structures, often along with everything inside them, as well as damaging  
3 pastures and vineyards.

4        106. Because the Wine Country Fires spread so quickly, businesses entities often could not  
5 protect their properties or valuable inventories of products, crops, materials, and records.

6        107. The fire damage and destruction also have negatively impacted the value of affected  
7 business property, including property used as pasture for livestock, vineyards, and other farming or  
8 ranching operations, and will continue to the resale value and development potential for such  
9 properties for an as-yet-unknown period of time.

10       108. In addition to damage and destruction of real and personal property, the Wine  
11 Country Fires caused widespread economic losses to businesses throughout the region, and will  
12 continue to do so into the future.

13       109. Business entities that were displaced have incurred and will continue to incur costs  
14 related to re-locating while displaced.

15       110. Businesses have incurred and will continue to incur economic losses due to inability  
16 to operate their businesses, loss of access to their business locations, and inability of staff and  
17 employees to reach all such businesses. These conditions are ongoing and will continue for an  
18 unknown time into the future.

19       111. Many businesses in Wildfire Counties derive significant revenue from tourists and  
20 other out-of-region customers. These businesses have suffered and will continue to suffer economic  
21 loss due to these tourists and out-of-region customers choosing not to visit the Wildfire Counties in  
22 the aftermath of the wildfires.

23       112. Individual employees of affected businesses also have incurred and will continue to  
24 incur economic losses due to the inability of those businesses to operate, be accessed, or attract or  
25 service customers due to the wine Country Fires.

26       113. Businesses have incurred and will continue to incur economic losses due to the  
27 chemical retardant that was used to put out the fires. Cal Fire dumped several million gallons to try  
28



1 to control the blazes. The chemical kills the plants it comes into contact with and also harms the  
2 soil. Organic businesses incurred and will continue to incur economic losses due to the foreseeable  
3 use of chemical retardant because the product contains fertilizer-type materials that will ruin an  
4 organic accreditation. These conditions are ongoing and will continue for an unknown time into the  
5 future.

6 114. Northern California's Wine Country is internationally renowned for its wines and is  
7 the world's fourth largest wine producer. The region produces much of the most highly prized and  
8 highest-priced wine in California. Napa and Sonoma are America's equivalent to France's Bordeaux  
9 region. They are home to many premier vinicultural areas: locations where the climate, geology,  
10 and other natural factors are considered ideal for producing quality wine.

11 115. Twenty-seven wineries in the region have reported damage thus far caused by the  
12 Wine Country Fires. Although the full extent of the damage caused to vineyards and wineries is not  
13 known, the grapes on the vines that survived the Wine Country Fires may suffer from "smoke taint"  
14 and be unusable for winemaking. Smoke may have permeated into the plant's leaves or the skin of  
15 the grapes, which will only reveal its damage during fermentation. This condition severely damages  
16 flavor and the "nose" of the wine. In bad cases, the wine can take on the taste of a "dirty ashtray" or  
17 smell "like a smoked fish."

18 116. Many wineries lost power during the wildfires. Without power, the fermentation  
19 process may accelerate too quickly ruining the wines. Reserves of wines aging in barrels and bottles  
20 may also be lost to smoke and heat damage to the wines.

21 117. The damage the wildfires caused to the soil may also impact the taste and quality of  
22 the wines grown in the region far into the future. Those who lost vineyards may have to wait as  
23 many as three to five years to return the soil to a place where they can produce a viable crop of  
24 grapes.

25 118. There are more than 100,000 acres of vineyards in Napa Valley and Sonoma, but the  
26 full damage to the vines cannot be seen yet. It may take at least two years to really understand if  
27 each vine is still viable or how its growth patterns may have changed.



1           119.    The viability of the vines depends on where they were burned. The part of the vine  
2 which creates fruit is grafted onto different, hardier rootstock, so it has a better chance to grow and  
3 be resistance to disease. Thus, even if the roots were undamaged, the rootstock does not produce  
4 grapes which are desirable for winemaking. Whether the vine will remain fruitful is also dependent  
5 on the extent of the damage. For example, scorched vine will not produce as much fruit. The worst  
6 case is when the trunk of the plant is damaged. If a substantial portion of the trunk is destroyed,  
7 there is no saving the vine.

8           120.    A vine does not actually have had to catch fire to be harmed; even just exposure to  
9 heat from adjacent burning material can cause damage. Slightly damaged vines are also vulnerable  
10 to pathogens like fungi.

11           121.    Each of these lost vines represents many hours of human labor, skill, and artistry.  
12 They cannot be easily replaced. Each vine has been manipulated for decades to develop a particular  
13 taste or a quality such as the thickness of the grapes' skin. Furthermore, it takes at least three years  
14 for a vine to produce usable fruit, and the higher quality grapes come from the more mature vines.  
15 Many of the vines in Napa and Sonoma were thirty to forty years old. Some of the vines may have  
16 been more than a century old and brought to America in the "baggage of a European immigrant."

17           122.    The Wine Country Fires also have caused a huge risk of erosion. Individuals and  
18 businesses have and will incur damage to personal and real property, business losses, and other  
19 damages related to preparing for and preventing erosion, runoff, and debris flow for an as-yet  
20 unknown period of time.

21           123.    Beyond the damage to their properties, vines, and inventories, vines, and inventories,  
22 wineries are also worried about the impact the Wine Country Fires are having on tourism. Last year,  
23 California wineries drew more than 23 million visits and earned more than \$7.2 Billion in tourist-  
24 related income, most of which was spent in Napa and Sonoma Counties. The wine industry in Napa  
25 County supports 46,000 jobs locally through the 700 grape growers and 475 wineries operating in  
26 the area and employees about 325,000 people statewide. Many in the area depend on the wine  
27 industry for their livelihoods.  
28

1 124. Northern California receives most of its tourists around the fall wine-grape harvest  
2 season, and October is typically among the busiest months for hotels and other tourism-related  
3 industries in Northern California.

4 125. Many hotels had to evacuate and close their properties because of the wildfires. If  
5 they reopened, they housed emergency responders, evacuees, and insurance groups at lower rates.  
6 However, news of the wildfires is driving away visitors and leading them to choose other  
7 destinations.

8  
9 **V**  
**CAUSES OF ACTION**

10 **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**(Negligence)**

11 126. Plaintiff hereby re-alleges and incorporates by reference every allegation contained  
12 above as though the same were set forth herein in full.

13 127. The Wine Country Fires were a direct and legal result of the negligence, recklessness,  
14 and/or unlawfulness of PG&E.

15 128. PG&E has a non-delegable duty to apply a level of care commensurate with and  
16 proportionate to the dangers inherent in designing, engineering, constructing, operating and  
17 maintaining electrical transmission and distribution systems. This duty includes the obligation to  
18 keep vegetation properly trimmed and maintained so as to prevent contact with power lines and  
19 other electrical equipment, including utility poles.

20 129. PG&E has a non-delegable duty to vigilantly perform and/or oversee the  
21 maintenance, use, operation, repair and inspection of their electrical transmission and distribution  
22 systems. This oversight duty must be appropriate to the changing conditions and circumstances of  
23 their electrical transmission and distribution systems and the surrounding environment.

24 130. PG&E was aware that if its electrical transmission and distribution systems came in  
25 contact with vegetation that a fire would likely result. PG&E also knew that, given the existing  
26 climate and weather conditions, said fire was likely to pose a risk of serious injury and economic  
27 damage to the general public, including to the Plaintiff and to Class members.



1           131. Prior to the Wine Country Fires, PG&E hired, retained, contracted, allowed, and/or  
2 otherwise collaborated with one or more of the DOE Defendants and/or other parties to perform  
3 work on and maintain their network of electrical distribution lines, infrastructure, and nearby  
4 vegetation. The work for which certain of the DOE Defendants were hired involved a risk of fire,  
5 and protection against the risk of fire, that was peculiar to the nature of the agency relationship. A  
6 reasonable property/easement owner and/or lessee in the position of PG&E, would have recognized,  
7 the necessity of taking special precautions to protect against the risk of harm created by work  
8 performed, work to be performed, work improperly performed and/or work not performed by certain  
9 of the DOE Defendants.

10           132. PG&E knew or should have known that the activities of some or all of the DOE  
11 Defendants, and/or other parties, involved a risk that was peculiar to the operation of PG&E's  
12 business as an electrical corporation, public utility and electric plant. That risk was foreseeable and  
13 arose from the nature and/or location of the work. Notwithstanding the above, PG&E failed to take  
14 reasonable precautions to protect against the foreseeable risk of harm created by the activities of  
15 some or all of the DOE Defendants and other parties.

16           133. PG&E has special knowledge and expertise far above that of a layperson that they  
17 were required to apply to the design, engineering, construction, use, operation, inspection, repair and  
18 maintenance of electrical lines, infrastructure, equipment, and vegetation to assure safety under all  
19 the local conditions in their service area, including but not limited to, those conditions identified  
20 herein.

21           134. PG&E negligently breached those duties by, among other things:

- 22                   a. Failing to conduct reasonably prompt, proper and frequent inspections of the
- 23                   electrical transmission lines, wires and associated equipment;
- 24                   b. Failing to design, construct, monitor, and maintain electrical transmission and
- 25                   distribution lines and equipment and all appurtenances including power poles
- 26                   to withstand foreseeable conditions to avoid igniting fires;
- 27
- 28



- c. Failing to maintain and monitor high-voltage transmission and distribution lines in fire-prone areas to avoid igniting fire and spreading fires;
- d. Failing to install the equipment necessary, and/or to inspect and repair the equipment installed, to prevent electrical transmission and distribution lines from improperly sagging, swaying or otherwise making contact with other metal wires placed on its poles and igniting fires;
- e. Failing to keep equipment in a safe condition at all times to prevent fires;
- f. Failing to inspect fixtures and vegetation within proximity to energized transmission and distribution lines;
- g. Failing to de-energize power lines during fire-prone conditions;
- h. Failing to de-energize power lines after the fire's ignition;
- i. Failing to properly train and supervise employees and agents responsible for maintenance and inspection of the distribution lines;
- j. Failing to implement and follow regulations and reasonably prudent practices to avoid fire ignition;
- k. Failing to properly investigate, monitor, and maintain vegetation and other hazards sufficient to mitigate the risk of fire.
- l. Failing to comply with the applicable statutes, regulations and standards;
- m. Failing to timely and properly maintain and inspect the subject electrical lines, infrastructure, equipment and adjacent vegetation and other hazards;
- n. Failing to properly cut, trim, prune, and/or otherwise keep vegetation from contact with its line; and
- o. Failing to make the overhead electrical lines infrastructure, equipment and vegetation safe under all the foreseeable exigencies created by the surrounding circumstances and conditions.

135. PG&E's negligent failure to comply with their duty of care proximately caused economic damages to Plaintiff and to the members of the Class.

**SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION**  
**(Inverse Condemnation)**

136. Plaintiff hereby re-alleges and incorporates by reference every allegation contained above as though the same were set forth herein in full.

137. On or about October 8, 2017, Plaintiff was an owner of a business entity located within the Wildfire Counties.

138. At all times relevant to this Complaint, PG&E installed, owned, operated, used, controlled, and/or maintained electrical lines, electrical infrastructure and other electric equipment in the Wildfire Counties. The installation, operation, use, control and maintenance are a public improvement for a public use, and constitute an "Electrical Plant" pursuant to California Public Utilities Code, Section 217.

139. PG&E's electrical lines, infrastructure, equipment and other public improvements, as knowingly and intentionally designed and constructed, present an inherent risk of fire to private property. During all times relevant to this Complaint, PG&E, acting in furtherance of the public purpose of supplying electricity, took a conscious, considered risk that private property would be damaged or destroyed by fire.

140. On or about October 8, 2017, as a direct, necessary, and legal result of PG&E's negligent installation, ownership, operation, use, control, and/or maintenance for a public use of their power lines and electrical infrastructure and equipment, PG&E's electrical lines and/or equipment caused wildfires which burned in excess of 220,000 acres, including property owned or occupied by Plaintiff. The fire caused Plaintiff to suffer economic losses resulting in the taking of Plaintiff's private property. Plaintiff has not received adequate compensation for the damages, and therefore has suffered a taking or damaging of said property by PG&E without just compensation

141. PG&E's conduct as described herein was the sole factor in causing damage to a property interest protected by the Fifth Amendment to the United States Constitution and Article I, Section 19, of the California Constitution, which entitles Plaintiff to just compensation to be ascertained by a jury for all damages incurred.

1           142. Pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure, Section 1036, Plaintiff is entitled to  
2 recover all costs, including reasonable attorney's fees.

3                                   **THIRD CAUSE OF ACTION**  
4                                   **(Public Nuisance)**

5           143. Plaintiff hereby re-alleges and incorporates by reference every allegation contained  
6 above as though the same were set forth herein in full.

7           144. At all times relevant to this Complaint, Plaintiff owned a business entity in the area  
8 destroyed by the Wine Country Fires. Plaintiff had the right, without the interference of PG&E, to  
9 operate that business.

10          145. PG&E, by acting and/or failing to act, created conditions that were harmful to the  
11 public, including Plaintiff. This condition was harmful to health, obstructed the free use of  
12 Plaintiff's business so as to interfere with the use of that business and was a fire hazard to the  
13 property of the public and to Plaintiff's business.

14          146. An ordinary person would be reasonably annoyed and disturbed by the condition  
15 created by PG&E.

16          147. The seriousness of the harm caused by PG&E's acts and/or failing to act, including  
17 the burning of over 200,000 acres, the displacement of an enormous number of people and the  
18 destruction of over 8,000 structures, outweighs the social utility of the PG&E's conduct.

19          148. Plaintiff did not consent to the PG&E's conduct.

20          149. PG&E's acts and/or failure to act were the sole direct and legal cause of harm to  
21 Plaintiff that was different from the type of harm suffered by the general public. Such harm included  
22 the loss of the use, benefit, and enjoyment of Plaintiff's business entity and lost profits from the  
23 closure of Plaintiff's business, and incidental expenses, annoyance, disturbance, and inconvenience.

24          150. The conduct of the PG&E, as set forth above, constitutes a public nuisance pursuant  
25 to California Civil Code, Sections 3479 and 3480. Further, the uncontrolled Wine Country Fires  
26 which resulted from PG&E's conduct as set forth above constitutes a public nuisance pursuant to  
27 California Public Resources Code, Sections 4104 and 4170. Further, pursuant to California Civil  
28



1 Code, Section 731, Plaintiff is entitled to enjoin and abate the nuisance as created by PG&E, in  
2 addition to recovering damages.

3 **FOURTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
4 **(Private Nuisance)**

5 151. Plaintiff hereby re-alleges and incorporates by reference every allegation contained  
6 above as though the same were set forth herein in full.

7 152. PG&E's actions, conduct, omissions, negligence, trespass and failure to act resulted  
8 in a fire hazard and a foreseeable obstruction to the free use of Plaintiff's business property, invaded  
9 the right to use the Plaintiff's business property, and interfered with the enjoyment of Plaintiff's  
10 business property, causing the Plaintiff unreasonable harm and substantial actual damages  
11 constituting a nuisance, pursuant to California Civil Code, Section 3479.

12 153. As a direct and proximate result of the conduct of PG&E, Plaintiff sustained loss and  
13 damage, including but not limited to damage to lost profits from its restaurant, the amount of which  
14 will be proven at trial.

15 **FIFTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
16 **(Premises Liability)**

17 154. Plaintiff hereby re-alleges and incorporates by reference every allegation contained  
18 above as though the same were set forth herein in full.

19 155. PG&E owned, occupied, controlled real property, and/or an easement to real property  
20 at or near the location to the Wine Country Fires.

21 156. PG&E was negligent in the use and/or maintenance of that property and/or of their  
22 equipment installed on that property.

23 157. PG&E's negligence was the sole factor in causing harm to Plaintiff and members of  
24 the Class.

1 **SIXTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
2 **(Negligence Per Se)**

3 158. Plaintiff hereby re-alleges and incorporates by reference every allegation contained  
4 above as though the same were set forth herein in full.

5 159. PG&E at all times herein had a duty to properly design, construct, operate, maintain,  
6 inspect, and manage its electrical infrastructure, and to trim trees and vegetation near its electrical  
7 infrastructure, in compliance with all relevant provisions of applicable orders, decisions, directions,  
8 rules and statutes, including, but not limited to, CPUC General Order 95, including but not limited to  
9 Rules 31.2 and 38; CPUC General Order 165; and California Public Resources Code, Section 4435.

10 160. California Public Resources Code, Section 4435 provides that if a fire originates from  
11 the operation or use of a device which may kindle a fire, the occurrence of a fire is *prima facie*  
12 evidence that the device was negligently maintained or used.

13 161. The violation of a legislative enactment or administrative regulation which defines a  
14 minimum standard of conduct is unreasonable *per se*.

15 162. PG&E violated the above legislation and regulations by, but not limited to:

- 16 a. Failing to properly service, inspect or maintain electrical infrastructure,  
17 structures and vegetation affixed to and in close proximity to high voltage  
18 electrical lines;
- 19 b. Failing to provide electrical supply systems of suitable design;
- 20 c. Failing to construct and to maintain such systems for their intended use of safe  
21 transmission of electricity considering the known conditions of climate,  
22 weather and vegetation of the area;
- 23 d. Failing to properly design, construct, operate, maintain, inspect and manage  
24 its electrical supply systems and the surrounding arid vegetation resulting in  
25 said vegetation igniting and accelerating the spread of the fire;
- 26 e. Failing to properly safeguard against the ignition of fire during the course and  
27 scope of employee work on behalf of PG&E;
- 28

1 f. Failing to comply with the enumerated legislative enactments and  
2 administrative regulations.

3 163. The violation of CPUC General Order 95, including, but not limited to, Rules 31.2,  
4 and 38; CPUC General Order 165; and California Public Resources Code, Section 4435 by PG&E  
5 proximately and substantially caused the destruction, damages and injuries to Plaintiff and members  
6 of the Class.

7 164. Plaintiff was and is an entity for whose protection CPUC General Order 95, including  
8 but not limited to Rules 31.2, and 38; CPUC General Order 165; and California Public Resources  
9 Code, Section 4435; were adopted.

10 165. PG&E is liable to Plaintiff for all loss, damages and injury caused by and resulting  
11 from Defendants' violation of CPUC General Order 95, including, but not limited to Rules 31.2, and  
12 38; CPUC General Order 165; and California Public Resources Code, Section 4435 as alleged herein  
13 according to proof.

14 **SEVENTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
15 **(Violation of Public Utilities Code, Section 2106)**

16 166. Plaintiff hereby re-alleges and incorporates by reference every allegation contained  
17 above as though the same were set forth herein in full.

18 167. As a Public Utility, PG&E is legally required to comply with the rules and orders  
19 promulgated by the CPUC pursuant to California Public Utilities Code, Section 702.

20 168. A utility that performs or fails to perform something required to be done by the  
21 California Constitution, a law of the State, or a regulation or order of the Public Utilities  
22 Commission, which leads to the loss or injury, is liable for that loss or injury, pursuant to California  
23 Public Utilities Code, Section 2106.

24 169. As a utility, PG&E is required to provide, maintain, and service equipment and  
25 facilities in a manner adequate to maintain the safety, health and convenience of their customers and  
26 the public, pursuant to California Public Utilities Code, Section 451.



1 170. PG&E is required to design, engineer, construct, operate and maintain electrical  
2 supply lines in a manner consonant with their use, taking into consideration local conditions and  
3 other circumstances, so as to provide safe and adequate electric service, pursuant to CPUC General  
4 Order 95 and General Order 165.

5 171. Through its omissions, commissions, and conduct alleged herein, PG&E violated  
6 California Public Utilities Code, Sections 702 and 451, and/or CPUC General Order 95, thereby  
7 making them liable for losses, damages and injury sustained by Plaintiff pursuant to Public Utilities  
8 Code, Section 2106.

9 **EIGHTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
10 **(Violation of Health & Safety Code, Section 13007)**

11 172. Plaintiff hereby re-alleges and incorporates by reference every allegation contained  
12 above as though the same were set forth herein in full.

13 173. By engaging in the acts and omissions alleged in this Complaint, PG&E willfully,  
14 negligently, and in violation of law, set fire to and/or allowed fire to be set to the property of another  
15 in violation of California Health & Safety Code, Section 13007.

16 174. As a legal result of PG&E's violation of California Health & Safety Code,  
17 Section 13007, Plaintiff suffered recoverable damages to property under California Health & Safety  
18 Code, Section 13007.

19 175. As a further legal result of the violation of California Health & Safety Code, Section  
20 13007 by PG&E, Plaintiff suffered damages and are entitled to reasonable attorney's fees under  
21 California Code of Civil Procedure, Section 1021.9 for the prosecution of this cause of action.

22 **NINTH CAUSE OF ACTION**  
23 **(Negligent Interference with Prospective Economic Advantage)**

24 176. Plaintiff hereby re-alleges and incorporates by reference every allegation contained  
25 above as though the same were set forth herein in full.

1 177. Plaintiff and members of the Class have existing or prospective economic  
2 relationships with citizens of the region impacted by the Wine Country Fires, visitors to the region,  
3 and other individuals and organizations in and related to the region.

4 178. These relationships have a reasonably probable likelihood of resulting in future  
5 economic benefits or advantages to Plaintiff and members of the Class

6 179. PG&E knew or should have known of these existing and prospective economic  
7 relationships.

8 180. PG&E owed a duty to Plaintiff and to the members of the Class to avoid negligent or  
9 reckless conduct that would interfere with and adversely affect the existing and prospective  
10 economic relationships or Plaintiff and members of the Class

11 181. PG&E breached that duty to Plaintiff and the members of the Class by, among other  
12 things, failing to install and/or maintain reasonable safety equipment to prevent fires, failing to  
13 properly maintain their electrical infrastructure in a safe condition, and failing to manage the  
14 vegetation surrounding their equipment.

15 182. PG&E knew or should have known that, if it failed to act with reasonable care, the  
16 existing or prospective economic relationships of Plaintiffs and the members of the Class would be  
17 interfered with and disrupted.

18 183. PG&E was negligent and failed to act with reasonable care as set forth above.

19 184. PG&E engaged in wrongful acts and/or omissions as set forth above, including but  
20 not limited to their violations of laws that require it to operate its equipment in a manner that does  
21 not damage public health or safety.

22 185. As a direct and proximate result of PG&E's wrongful acts and/or omissions, it  
23 negligently and recklessly interfered with and disrupted the existing and prospective economic  
24 relationships of Plaintiff and the members of the Class.  
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**VI**  
**PRAYER FOR RELIEF**

WHEREFORE, Plaintiff prays for judgment against Defendants PG&E Corp., PG&E, and Does 1-125, and each of them, as follows:

**For Negligence, Trespass, Private Nuisance, Premises Liability,  
Violation of Public Utilities Code, Section 2106  
and Violation of Health & Safety Code, Section 13007**

1. Repair, depreciation, and/or replacement of damaged, destroyed, and/or lost property;
2. General and/or special damages for all damages to property according to proof;
3. Loss of the use, benefit, goodwill, and enjoyment of Plaintiff's property;
4. Loss of business profits or proceeds and/or any related displacement expenses;
5. Attorneys' fees, expert fees, consultant fees and litigation costs and expense, as allowed under California, Section 1021.9 and/or any other statute;
6. For punitive and exemplary damages against Defendants in an amount according to proof under California Public Utilities Code, Section 2106 and any and all other statutory or legal basis that may apply;
7. Costs of suit;
8. Prejudgment interest; and
9. Any and all other and further such relief as the Court shall deem proper, all according to proof.

**For Public Nuisance**

1. Repair, depreciation, and/or replacement of property;
2. General and/or special damages for all damages to property according to proof;
3. Loss of the use, benefit, goodwill, and enjoyment of Plaintiff's business property;
4. Loss of business profits or proceeds and/or any related expenses;
5. General damages for loss of quiet enjoyment of property;
6. A permanent injunction ordering that Defendants cease their violation of Public Resources Code, Sections 4292 and 4293 and CPUC General order 95. Plaintiff further



1 seeks an order directing PG&E to abate the continuing public nuisance as set forth  
2 above.

3 **For Inverse Condemnation**

- 4 1. Repair, depreciation, and/or replacement of damaged, destroyed, and/or lost  
5 business property;  
6 2. Loss of business profits and/or any related expenses;  
7 3. All costs of suit, including attorneys' fees, expert fees and related costs;  
8 4. Any and all relief, compensation, or measure of damages available to Plaintiff by  
9 law based on the injuries and damages suffered by Plaintiff;  
10 5. Prejudgment interest according to proof; and  
11 6. For such other and further relief as the Court shall deem proper, all according to  
12 proof.

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**VII**  
**JURY TRIAL DEMAND**

Plaintiff hereby demands a jury trial on all causes of action for which a jury is available under the law.

Dated: December 19, 2017

\_\_\_\_\_  
Francis O. Scarpulla

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October 17, 2019

VIA FEDERAL EXPRESS

PG&E Corporation Claims Processing Center  
c/o Prime Clerk, LLC  
850 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Suite 412  
Brooklyn, NY 11232

Re: *In re: PG&E Corporation, and Pacific Gas and Electric Company, Debtors*  
USBC, NDCA No. 19-30088 (DM)  
Proofs of Claim (Fire Claim Related)

Dear Sir or Madam:

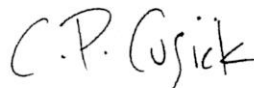
Enclosed please find the original and one copy of six (6) amended Proofs of Claim (Fire Claim Related) on behalf of Mark Baker, June L. Stewart, Romana Bracco, Richard W. Carpeneti, Jeanette Smylie on behalf of herself and all other similarly situated, and GER Hospitality, LLC, dba Aventine Glen Ellen, for itself and on behalf of all others similarly situated to be filed in the above-referenced matter.

Also enclosed is an original and one copy of a first Proof of Claim (Fire Claim Related) on behalf of Adolfo Veronese to be filed in the above-referenced matter.

We enclose a self-addressed, postage-prepaid envelope in which to return the copies of each of these Proofs, stamped "received", to this office.

Thank you for your attention in this regard.

Very truly yours,



C.P. Cusick, sec'y to  
Francis O. Scarpulla

Enclosures

ORIGIN ID:APCA (415) 788-7210  
FRANCIS O. SCARPULLA

456 MONTGOMERY STREET  
17TH FLOOR  
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94104  
UNITED STATES US

SHIP DATE: 17OCT19  
ACTWGT: 1.00 LB  
CAD: 108568126/NET4160

BILL SENDER

TO PG&E CORP. CLAIMS PROCESSING CENTER  
**RECEIVED**

C/O PRIME CLERK, LLC  
830 3RD AVENUE, SUITE 412  
BROOKLYN NY 11232

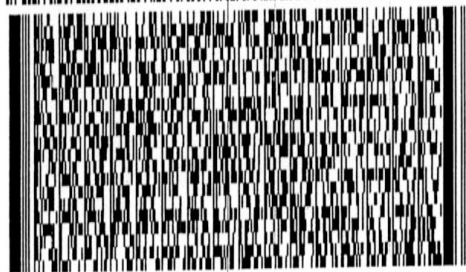
OCT 18 2019

PRIME CLERK LLC

(999) 999-9999  
INV:  
PO:

REF: PGE BK

DEPT:



FedEx  
Express



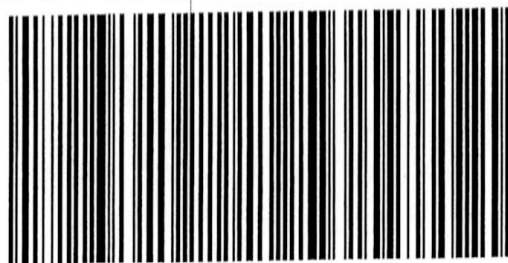
FRI - 18 OCT 10:30A

PRIORITY OVERNIGHT

TRK# 7767 4945 3752  
0201

**XA FBTA**

11232  
NY-US EWR



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OCT 18 2019

PRIME CLERK LLC

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